

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 8, 9, 11-15, 19, 20, and 22-26 will be pending upon entry of the present amendment. Claims 8, 19, and 24 are amended, and claim 10 is cancelled.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 20, 22, 23, 25, and 26, and for indicating the allowability of the subject matter of claims 10, 15, and 24. Accordingly, claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of claim 10, and is now in condition for allowance. Dependent claims 9 and 11-15 are also therefore allowable. Claim 19 has been amended to incorporate subject matter similar to that of claim 10.

Claims 8, 9, 11, 13-15 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Daughtry (US 3,851,986). Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daughtry in view of Korb et al. (US 4,918,820).

Claim 19 recites, in part, “a manipulable element having a knob and being adjustably attached to the retaining element and adapted to releasably engage the handle, such that adjustment of the manipulable element relative to the retaining element enables removal of the blade from the handle and rotation of the first side relative to the second side.

The amendment to claim 19 incorporates language similar to that of previous claim 10, which was indicated by the Examiner as being allowable. It is therefore believed that claim 19 is now in condition for allowance.

In view of the amendment to claim 8 all the remaining pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and the rejections of the recent Office Action are moot. The specific grounds of the rejections will therefore not be further discussed here.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment and a timely Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner notes any informalities in the claims, or changes that can be made via Examiner’s amendment to place the case in condition for allowance, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative by telephone at (206) 694-4848 to expeditiously correct such informalities.

Application No. 10/631,920
Reply to Office Action dated August 7, 2006

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
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